American support for attack on PoK

1016. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the American stand has been very supportive and understanding on the recent attack by Israel on terrorist camps in Syria;

(b) if so, whether Government have made any efforts togather support from the Americans to attack terrorist training camps in PoK similar to what the Israelis are doing;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and the problems faced by Government; and

(e) whether Government's stand on attacking terrorist training camps in PoK has taken a back seat altogether?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) It is not for the Government to comment upon the U.S. position on an incident in a third country.

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e) The Government remains firm in its resolve to combat cross border terrorism through appropriate and effective measures. The Government expects Pakistan to fulfil its commitments to take necessary steps, including dismantling of terrorism infrastructure, to end cross border terrorism.

Prime Minister's Turkey Visit

1017. DR. KARAN SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether during the Prime Minister's recent visit to Turky, India made its stand about sending its troops to Iraq, that no decision in the

matter can be taken unless the UN makes its support or otherwise clear the US move;

(b) if so, whether the Turkish Government also shared the India view;

(c) whether the Jammu and Kashmir issue was also discussed with Turkish Counterparts and how for the Turkish Government agreed with the Indian stand; and

(d) what other issues were discussed during the Prime Minister's visit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI VINOD KHANNA): (a) During PM's visit to Turkey from 16-19 September, 2003 in response to a question from a member of the Press, PM said that India's consideration of sending troops to Iraq would depend on the UN resolution, its content, other related aspects and the internal security situation in the country.

(b) There was an identity of views in emphasising the need for a prominent role for the UN and a time-line for the political process which would transfer sovereignty to the Iraqi people.

(c) No Sir, the issue of Jammu and Kashmir was not discussed.

(d) Other issues discussed during PM's visit included, *inter alia,* ways and means of augmenting bilateral relations, including in the fields of defence, trade, energy, IT, and in the fight against terrorism, the situation in Middle East and the situation in Afghanistan were also discussed.

UN observers in Jammu and Kashmir

1018. SHRI RUMANDLA RAAMACHANDRAYYA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India-barred access to the UN observers group for India and Pakistan in Jammu and Kashmir making clear that India visualised no role for the world body in militancy hit State;

(b) whether India has asked the UN to wind up its Observers group stationed in Jammu and Kashmir; and